



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200

Austin, Texas 78758

(512) 490-0057

Stacey Benningfield
Texas Department of Transportation
Texas Turnpike Authority Division
1421 Wells Branch Parkway, Bldg. 1, Suite 107
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

2-15-97-F-
416

Dear Ms. Benningfield:

We have enclosed a copy of the Golden-cheeked Warbler Conservation Fund Letter of Agreement between U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the Trust for Public Land (TPL). As part of the project description during the Section 7 consultation for the proposed U.S. 183A project, the Texas Turnpike Authority (TTA) committed to contribute to a conservation fund for the federally endangered golden-cheeked warbler to minimize the impacts of the project on the habitat of the species. The Service confirmed this project feature in a reasonable and prudent measure in the Service's May 1, 2001, Biological Opinion (BO).

By letter dated November 6, 2001, to Brett Jackson, Federal Highway Administration, we amended the BO to concur with your revised assessment of habitat impacts and an updated proposal to contribute \$1,145,550 to a conservation fund for the project.

By this letter, we recommend that the contribution proposed for the 183A project be made to the TPL for use under the guidance of the enclosed Letter of Agreement. Please contact Nathan Allan at 512/490-0057 ext. 237 for any additional assistance.

Sincerely,

David C. Frederick
Supervisor

Enclosure



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cc :

Mr. Brett Jackson, Federal Highway Administration, Austin

Ms. Valarie Bristol, Trust for Public Land, Austin

Mr. Brett Jackson, P.E.
Federal Highway Administration
Federal Building, Room 826
300 East 8th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Ms. Valarie Bristol
Trust for Public Land
815 Brazos St. #400
Austin, TX 78701